

Conservation Activity Evaluation Tool

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

CSP-2017-1_VT - 2017 Agriculture Land_Crop Perennial

Soil Erosion

Sheet and Rill Erosion

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Screening level: Permanent ground cover $> 90\%$ and slope $< 10\%$. Assessment level: The water erosion rate is $<=$ T. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation 7 | Test Met |
| All hayed acres maintain at least 90 percent cover all year. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| Irrigation water use is managed to reduce irrigation induced soil erosion. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| The orchard or vineyard floor is covered by protective plants during critical erosion periods. <state be="" critical="" different="" erosion="" list;="" may="" of="" period(s)="" provides="" regions="" same="" state="" the="" within=""></state> | Yes | No 🗌 |
| Row orientation is across the slope or on a contour. (Applies nursery crops, orchards and vineyards) | Yes | No |
| Ephemeral Gully Erosion | | |
| Planning Criteria | Planning Cr | iteria Met |
| Screening level: Ephemeral gullies are not occuring. Assessment level: Conservation practices and managements are in place to prevent or control ephemeral gullies. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | Test Met |
| All temporary or permanent rills and gullies are stabilized. All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| Grassed waterways are established and maintained in concentrated flow areas. | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Classic Gully Erosion

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Classic gullies are not present. Assessment level: Classic gully management is adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts are minimized by vegetation and/or structures. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | All temporary or permanent rills and gullies are stabilized. All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable. | Yes | No |
| <u>St</u> | reambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Streams, shoreline or channels are not adjacent to site. Assessment level: For shorelines and water conveyance channels; banks are stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes, AND if bank erosion is present, it is beyond the client's control or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes, AND for streambanks, SVAP2 bank condition element score > 5. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | Excluding all fundamentally unstable, natural geomorphic streambanks/shorelines, all streambanks/shorelines on the operation show few signs of erosion or bank failure. Each is stable and protected with natural materials. | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Soil Quality Degradation

Organic Matter Depletion

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------|--|
| Screening level: Permanent ground cover $> 80\%$. Assessment level: The SCI is > 0 . | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Test Met | | |
| No-till or reduced tillage/planting methods are used on all crops grown in alley middles. | Yes | No | |
| Cover crops that are not burned, grazed, or harvested are included in the rotation. | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| The orchard or vineyard floor is covered by protective plants for the majority of the year. | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| All hayed acres maintain at least 90 percent cover all year. | Yes | No 🗌 | |



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Compaction

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------|--|
| Screening level: Soil compaction is not a problem AND activities do not cause soil compaction problems. Assessment level: Compaction is managed to meet client's production and management objectives. | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Test Met | | |
| Deep tillage is used to break compaction layers, as needed. | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| Soil moisture is tested to reduce soil compaction. Typical methods include moisture-by-feel or moisture meters. | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| Controlled traffic systems are commonly used to reduce soil compaction. Typical methods include either GPS or manual methods. | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| Wheel/track traffic is limited to less than 50 percent of the soil surface. The equipment's tires/tracks are no wider than 26 inches. | Yes | No | |
| The crop rotation includes crops or cover crops with deep roots that extend through the soil profile to break up compacted layers. <see lists="" state=""></see> | Yes | No | |



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Excess Water

Runoff and Flooding and Ponding

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Ponding or flooding not a problem AND activities do not cause ponding/flooding problems. Assessment level: Excess water is managed to meet client's objectives. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation To | est Met |
| | Deep rooted tree and shrub species are utilized to encourage infiltration and reduce runoff, flooding, or ponding. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| | Land smoothing operations were done to fix issues caused by flooding or ponding or runoff that damaged crops. | Yes | No |
| | Excessive water runoff, flooding, and water ponding are not concerns; or measures are applied such as grassed waterways, terraces, diversions, filter strips to reduce excessive runoff; or if flooding is a concern crops and field activities are managed within the seasonal flooding periods; or where ponding is a concern land leveling or shallow surface drains prevent ponding of water that limits crop production. | Yes | No |
| <u>Se</u> | asonal High Water Table | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Seasonal high water table does not cause a problem. Assessment level: Excess water is managed to meet client's objectives. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation To | est Met |
| | Deep rooted tree and shrub species are utilized to manage seasonal high water table. | Yes | No |
| | Tile drainage and drainage water management structures have been installed to ease the harmful effects of a seasonal high water table. | Yes | No |



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Drifted Snow

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------|
| Screening level: Drifted snow does not cause a problem. Assessment level: Excess water is managed to meet client's objectives. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Test Met | |
| Drifted snow is not a concern in this climate or measures are applied to avoid snow drifts on crops that may be harmed. | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Insufficient Water

Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: PLU is not irrigated. Assessment level: The irrigation system components and management result in a Farm Irrigation Rating Index > 60 AND meets applicable State in-stream flow and lake and pond water levels requirements. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | est Met |
| | An irrigation water management plan is followed that: -meets the crop's needs, while maximizing irrigation water efficiency, -schedules water application based on soil moisture monitoring and/or evapotranspiration monitoring, -measures and records the amount of water you use to irrigate as it comes onto the farm and goes to each field, AND -the system's distribution uniformity has been evaluated and necessary changes were made. | Yes | No |
| In | efficient Moisture Management | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Moisture management is not a problem AND activities do not cause inefficient moisture management problems. Assessment level: Runoff and evapotranspiration levels are minimized to meet client's management objectives. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | est Met |
| | Cover crops are killed timely to conserve soil moisture for the next crop. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| | The existing plant community was selected to efficiently utilize available moisture. | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Water Quality Degradation

Pesticides in Surface Water

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Pest control chemicals are not applied. Assessment level: Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize surface water impacts. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | A site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies are applied. If pesticide application is required, an environmental risk screening tool is used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approval tool) and application rates and timing are compliant with the label and the conservation plan. | Yes | No |
| <u>Pe</u> | sticides in Ground Water | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Pest control chemicals are not applied. Assessment level: Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize ground water impacts. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | A site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies are applied. If pesticide application is required, an environmental risk screening tool is used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approval tool) and application rates and timing are compliant with the label and the conservation plan. | Yes | No |



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Nutrients in Surface Water

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|--|
| Screening level: Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied AND the PLU is not grazed. Assessment level: Nutrient and amendment applications are based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize surface water impacts. | Yes | No | |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | est Met | |
| Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas. | Yes | No | |
| If nutrients are applied, a nutrient budget is used to determine all application rates, including: - Realistic yield goals, - Nutrient uptake requirements, and - Available nutrient accounting for each of the following: (a) N, P, K from representative soil tests (<= 3yrs), (b) Soil organic matter mineralization, (c) Legumes in rotation, (d) Previous applications of manure and other organic based materials, (e) Planned post-harvest residual soil test levels, (f) Available nutrient analysis for each nutrient source, and (g) Available nutrient uptake efficiencies from planned application rate, source, method, timing and placement. All state specific application setbacks are maintained for all nutrient applications. | Yes | No | |
| The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater, AND - have few places where concentrated runoff flows through. | Yes | No | |
| Filter strips that are at least 30 feet wide are established and maintained. | Yes | No | |



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Nutrients in Ground Water

| Planning Criteria | Planning Cr | iteria Met |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Screening level: Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied AND PLU is not grazed. Assessment level: Nutrient and amendment applications are based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize ground water impacts. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation 7 | Test Met |
| If nutrients are applied, a nutrient budget is used to determine all application rates, including: - Realistic yield goals, - Nutrient uptake requirements, and - Available nutrient accounting for each of the following: (a) N, P, K from representative soil tests (<= 3yrs), (b) Soil organic matter mineralization, (c) Legumes in rotation, (d) Previous applications of manure and other organic based materials, (e) Planned post-harvest residual soil test levels, (f) Available nutrient analysis for each nutrient source, and (g) Available nutrient uptake efficiencies from planned application rate, source, method, timing and placement. All state specific application setbacks are maintained for all nutrient applications. | Yes | No |



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<u>CSP-2017-1_VT - 2017 Agriculture Land_Crop Perennial</u> <u>Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water</u>

| Planning Criteria | Planning Cri | teria Met |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Screening level: Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land. Assessment level: Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to surface water sources. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | est Met |
| Livestock access to streams is limited to short periods of time and small areas. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| Filter strips that are at least 30 feet wide are established and maintained. | Yes | No |
| Manure and other biosolids are applied using a nutrient budget to determine all application rates, including: - Realistic yield goals, - Nutrient uptake requirements, and - Available nutrient accounting for each of the following: (a) N, P, K from representative soil tests (<= 3yrs), (b) Soil organic matter mineralization, (c) Legumes in rotation, (d) Avoiding manure applications when soils are frozen, snow covered, or saturated, (e) Planned post-harvest residual soil test levels, (f) Available nutrient analysis for each nutrient source, and (g) Available nutrient uptake efficiencies from planned application rate, source, method, timing and placement. All state specific application setbacks are maintained for all nutrient applications. Minimum setbacks are maintained from drainageways, wells, ditched, streams, rivers, and water bodies. | Yes | No |



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<u>CSP-2017-1_VT - 2017 Agriculture Land_Crop Perennial</u> <u>Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Ground Water</u>

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land. Assessment level: Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to groundwater sources. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| Pe | Manure and other biosolids are applied using a nutrient budget to determine all application rates, including:- Realistic yield goals,- Nutrient uptake requirements, and- Available nutrient accounting for each of the following:(a) N, P, K from representative soil tests (<= 3yrs),(b) Soil organic matter mineralization,(c) Legumes in rotation,(d) Avoiding manure applications when soils are frozen, snow covered, or saturated,(e) Planned post-harvest residual soil test levels,(f) Available nutrient analysis for each nutrient source, and(g) Available nutrient uptake efficiencies from planned application rate, source, method, timing and placement. All state specific application setbacks are maintained for all nutrient applications. Minimum setbacks are maintained from drainageways, wells, ditched, streams, rivers, and water bodies. **Troleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported 1** | Yes to Surface W | No 🗍 |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Activities do not present the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants. Assessment level: Petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid runoff to surface water. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well, and - within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means were to fail. | Yes | No |



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<u>CSP-2017-1_VT - 2017 Agriculture Land_Crop Perennial</u> <u>Petroleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported to Ground Water</u>

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria | | Planning Criteria Met | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------------------|--|
| Screening level: Activities do not present the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants. Assessment level: Petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid runoff to groundwater. | Yes | No | | |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation 7 | Test Met | | |
| The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well, and - within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means were to fail. | Yes | No | | |



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Excessive Sediment in Surface Water

| Planning Criteria | Planning Cri | teria Met |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Screening level: Permanent ground cover $>$ 90% and slope $<$ 10% AND classic gullies are not present AND streams or shoreline are not on or adjacent to site. Assessment level: Upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies AND the SVAP2 - bank condition $>=$ 5 AND the livestock and vehicle water crossings are stable AND The water erosion rate is $<=$ T AND wind erosion rate is $<=$ T. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | est Met |
| Established filter strips are at least 20 feet wide and maintained. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater, AND - have few places where concentrated runoff flows through. | Yes | No |
| All temporary or permanent rills and gullies are stabilized. | Yes | No |
| All hayed acres maintain at least 90 percent cover all year. | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Elevated Water Temperature

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Screening level: Water courses on or adjacent to the site are not designated by a State Agency as a temperature impairment OR water course temperature is not a client concern. Assessment level: The SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score is >= 5 AND the SVAP2 - riparian area quantity quality element score is >= 5 AND the SVAP2 - canopy cover element score is >= 6, OR existing conservation practices are in place to address water temperature. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | Test Met |
| More than 50 percent of the water surface is shaded on the length of the stream/river you control. | Yes | No |



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Air Quality Impacts

Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors

| Planning Criteria | Planning Cr | riteria Met | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| Screening level: Activities are not present that contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions AND episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift have not occurred. PM producing activity examples are: Prescribed Burn is conducted, Travel ways unpaved or untreated with binding agents, Engines (combustion source), Tillage, Pesticides are applied, Fertilization (manure/ commercial), CAFO/manure management). Assessment level: PM and PM Precursor emmissions are managed to meet client objectives. | Yes | No | |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation ' | Test Met | |
| Hedges or rows of trees/large shrubs are established that reduce and intercept air borne particulate matter. | Yes | No | |
| Dust is controlled on all non-vegetated, unpaved travel ways. | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| | | | |



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Emissions of Ozone Precursors

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Operations are not present that produce ozone precursor emissions. Ozone precursor producing activities are: Engines (combustion source), Pesticide application, Burning, CAFO/manure management, Fertilization (manure/commercial). Assessment level: Ozone precursor emmissions are managed to meet client objectives. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | Pesticides, including fumigants, are applied in a way that VOC emissions are reduced. For example, spot spraying, pest/target sensing application equipment, alternative pesticide formulations, or low emission fumigation methods. | Yes | No |
| | Ozone precursor producing activities are minimized by using one or more of the following activities: Reducing combustible engines exhaust via TIER 4 engine, applying IPM principles for pesticide applications, injection or incorporation of manure, nitrogen fertilizer incorportation or use of a nitrogen stabilizer. | Yes | No |
| <u>En</u> | nission of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crite | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Activities are not present that produce GHGs emissions. GHG producing activities are: Fertilization(manure/commercial), CAFO/manure management, Engines (combustion source), Tillage, AND GHGs are not regulated in this planning area. Assessment level: Greenhouse gas emmissions are managed to meet client objectives. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met |
| | If Nitrogen is applied, Nitrogen is applied as close as possible to crop uptake needs at the recommended rates. | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Objectionable Odors

| Planning Criteria | Planning Cri | teria Met |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Screening level: Activities are not present that contribute to odor nuisance air quality conditions. Odor nuisance producing activities are: Pesticide application, CAFO/manure management, Composting is conducted, AND odor sources are not regulated in this planning area AND episodes or complaints of odor nuisance have not occurred. Assessment level: Odors are managed to meet client objectives. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | est Met |
| Offsite movement of farm generated odors are minimized by practicing cleanliness around the AFO and incorporating manure at the time of application or when wind directions are away from the neighbors. Farmstead dust emissions do not move offsite. | Yes | No |
| Manure is applied and immediately incorporated or applied when wind direction is away from human occupied areas. | Yes | No |



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Degraded Plant Condition

Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

| | Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | Screening level: Plant production and health is not a client concern. Assessment level: Plants are adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources AND plant damage from wind erosion is below Crop Damage Tolerance levels. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | est Met |
| | Plants and crops are adapted to the soil and site conditions and produce average yield levels for the county in typical years. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| Ex | ccessive Plant Pest Pressure | | |
| | Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
| | Screening level: Plant productivity is not limited from pest pressure. Assessment level: Pest damage to plants are below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria AND plant pests, including noxious and invasive species are managed to meet client objectives. | Yes | No |
| | Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | est Met |
| | Weeds, insects, and diseases do not limit crop production. | Yes | No 🗌 |
| | Cover crops that are not burned, grazed, or harvested are grown to reduce plant pest pressures and break pest cycles. | Yes | No |



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<u>CSP-2017-1_VT - 2017 Agriculture Land_Crop Perennial</u> Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation

| Planning Criteria | Planning Cri | iteria Met |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Screening level: Wildfire hazards is not a concern. Assessment level: Fuel loads and fuel ladders are managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | est Met |
| Fire is not a typical hazard for crops and/or fire protection measure are applied such as firebreaks or activities to reduce the fuel loads around or within the crop fields. | Yes | No 🗌 |



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Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat

Inadequate Habitat - Food

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR food is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | est Met |
| Designated areas are planted as food and habitat for pollinators/beneficial insects. For example, planted to nectar and pollen producing plants and protected from disruptionchemical, biological, or mechanical. | Yes | No |
| The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, AND - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater. | Yes | No |
| Plant growth and cover is managed to develop and maintain habitat to help chosen wildlife species. <see action="" plan="" state="" wildlife=""></see> | Yes | No |

Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter



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| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | | Planning Criteria Met |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR cover is of available quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest. | Yes | No | |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | st Met | |
| The pond/lake, which supports a natural or planted fish population, is managed: -to exclude livestock, -to control nuisance species and undesirable aquatic vegetation controlled, -to complies with state and local regulations when stocking the pond, AND -use of a buffer zone of diverse, natural plant cover at least 35 feet wide. | Yes | No | |
| Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas | Yes | No | |
| Forage harvests cover patterns and minimum plant heights are planned for a desired wildlife species. <see action="" list="" plan="" species="" state="" wildlife=""></see> | Yes | No | |
| All stream banks show few signs of erosion or bank failure. Each is stable and protected with natural materials. | Yes | No | |
| Plant growth and cover is managed to develop and maintain habitat to help chosen wildlife species. <see action="" plan="" state="" wildlife=""></see> | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| The stream(s) have: - a natural, unaltered configuration, with minimal channel straightening, dredging, or bank alteration by armoring with rip-rap or other non-natural materials, - stable banks with limited erosion or bank failure, and - human uses and/or grazing levels that do not negatively impact bank condition. | Yes | No | |
| Established field borders are kept as wildlife cover and as pollinator/beneficial insect habitat. | Yes | No 🗌 | |
| Designated areas are planted as food and habitat for pollinators/beneficial insects. For example, planted to nectar and pollen producing plants and protected from disruptionchemical, biological, or mechanical. | Yes | No | |



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| Planning Criteria | Planning Cri | teria Met |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR water is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest. | Yes | No |
| | | |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation T | est Met |
| Evaluation Tests Changes to water flow for irrigation or otherwise are limited to not alter the stream's usual flow. | Evaluation T | est Met |



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| Planning Criteria | Planning Crit | eria Met |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR The connectivity of habitat components are adequate to support stable populations of targeted species. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Te | est Met |
| Connectivity between food resources and cover and shelter is provided for the chosen wildlife species. <see action="" plan="" state="" wildlife=""></see> | Yes | No |
| Plant growth and cover is managed to develop and maintain habitat to help chosen wildlife species. <see action="" plan="" state="" wildlife=""></see> | Yes | No 🗌 |
| Designated areas are planted as habitat for pollinators/beneficial insects. Non-cropped area protected from disruption during nesting and foraging periodschemical, biological, or mechanical. | Yes | No |
| Established field borders are kept as wildlife cover and as pollinator/beneficial insect habitat. | Yes | No |
| The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, AND - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater. | Yes | No |
| In-stream structures (dam, diversion structure, bridge, culvert, low-water stream crossing, etc.) allow for the upstream/downstream movement of fish and other aquatic animals throughout most of the year. | Yes | No |
| People, vehicles, equipment, or livestock are only moved across a stream/river at a bridge, culvert, or stabilized ford crossing(s). Travel across the stream/river beyond these crossings is controlled. | Yes | No |



Conservation Activity Evaluation Tool

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

CSP-2017-1_VT - 2017 Agriculture Land_Crop Perennial

Livestock Production Limitation

Inadequate Feed and Forage

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----|
| Assessment level: When the land use has a "grazed" modifer, livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Test Met | |
| The existing feed/forage quantity/quality meet the livestock needs and goals. | Yes | No |



Conservation Activity Evaluation Tool

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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Inefficient Energy Use

Equipment and Facilities

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----|
| Screening level: Client is not interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency. Assessment level: Major components of a USDA approved energy audit have been implemented that address equipment and facilities to meet client objectives OR On-farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices have been implemented to meet client objectives. | Yes | No |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Test Met | |
| Recommendations/components of an energy audit have been applied. The audit addressed equipment and facilities on the farm. For example, energy loss from lighting, drying, refrigeration, heating, or building insulation have been improved. | Yes | No |



Conservation Activity Evaluation Tool

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

<u>CSP-2017-1_VT - 2017 Agriculture Land_Crop Perennial</u> <u>Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations</u>

| Planning Criteria | Planning Criteria Met | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Screening level: Client is not interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency. Assessment level: Major components of a USDA approved energy audit have been implemented that address equipment and facilities to meet client objectives OR On-farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices have been implemented to meet client objectives. | Yes No | |
| Evaluation Tests | Evaluation Test Met | |
| An irrigation water management plan is followed that: -meets the crop's needs, while maximizing irrigation water efficiency, -schedules water application based on soil moisture monitoring and/or evapotranspiration monitoring, -measures and records the amount of water you use to irrigate as it comes onto the farm and goes to each field, AND -the system's distribution uniformity has been evaluated and necessary changes were made. | Yes No | |
| Recommendations/components of an energy audit have been applied. The audit addressed field operations on the farm. For example, energy | Yes No | |